

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BUCKLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL  
Held at Bucklebury Memorial Hall on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2013 at 7.45pm.

PRESENT

Mrs. P. W. Frankum (Chairman); Mr. A. Dunkerton; Mr. P. Brook; Mrs. L. Clarke; Mr. T. Banks; Mrs. H. Cairns; Mr. B. Dickens; Mr. A. Gilbert; Mr. A. Stott; Mr. J. Brims; Mr. G. Pask (District Councillor); Mrs. H. Pratt (Clerk).

OTHERS

Jacquine Theunisen; Alistair McOran-Campbell; Barry Keeme; Simon Hunt; Elizabeth Fenston; Jane Gilbert; Jonathan Steward; Shelia Holland; Russ Holland; Andrew Peddy; Ian Pratt.

APOLOGIES

Mr. T. Slatford.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

D1. There were no declarations of interest.

MINUTES

- M1. Bucklebury Parish Council Minutes for Meeting held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2013.  
The minutes of the BPC meeting held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2013 were agreed as a true record and signed by Mrs. Frankum.
- M2. Planning Committee Minutes for Meeting held on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2013.  
The minutes of Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2013 were agreed as a true record and signed by Mr. Dickens.

PUBLIC SESSION

- PS1. The Watermill, Bucklebury.  
For details of the discussion on the Watermill, please refer to the Planning section of these minutes.
- PS2. Bucklebury Parish Website.  
A request has been received to publish information about the efforts of local people in raising money for Pancreatic Cancer Research Fund after the death of a parishioner from pancreatic cancer. BPC considered the article and agreed it should be published on the web site; however it is unclear in the policy whether or not this type of article should be published on the web site. It was agreed that Mr. Banks would review the policy with a view to including a statement about articles being at the discretion of BPC. TB

CLERKS REPORT

- CR1. Parking/Driving in Berry's Road.  
The Clerk reported that an email had been sent to Mr. Garratt asking for wooden bollards (posts) to be placed around the grass on the corner of Woodside Close and Berry's Road and that white lines be painted on the road at the junction of Berry's Road and Blackland's Road. HP
- CR2. Field behind the Cottage Inn.  
The Clerk has spoken to Richard Beech from WBC about the use of the meadow adjacent to the car park. His advice is that BPC has three options: monitor the situation; write to the landlord and request his written confirmation of his intention to only use the field within the restrictions of its agricultural usage; to hand the situation over to WBC enforcement.  
It was agreed that Mr. Slatford would speak to the landlord prior to the Clerk writing to TS

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- him and “GreenKing” (the brewery) requesting confirmation of their intentions for agricultural usage of the meadow. HP
- The Clerk advised BPC that the signs only advertise potential use and don’t actually constitute usage. It was requested that this information be obtained in writing. HP
- CR3. Commons Clearing.  
 The Spring Common Clearing event will be held on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, meeting at the Memorial Hall from 2pm. Mrs. Cairns, Mrs. Clarke, Mr. Brook, Mrs. Frankum and Mrs. Pratt agreed to make cakes. Volunteers were requested to help serve tea and councillors were reminded that it was a good opportunity to meet parishioners. Mr. Dunkerton agreed to take his trailer out to pick up larger pieces of fly-tipped rubbish and black sacks left at the road side. The Clerk will contact Bucklebury Farm Park and ask if Rupert Hartley-Russell and Ollie Brooke can also attend. The Clerk will also invite the police to the event. HP
- CR4. Parish Assembly.  
 The Annual Parish Assembly will be held on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May at 8pm in the Memorial Hall. Possible speakers were discussed, however it was agreed that it would be better to invite representatives from various parish groups to give a report. Local groups will also be invited to have a stand to advertise what they do for the parish and what they can offer parishioners.  
 It was agreed that wine, soft drinks and nibbles would be served this year, rather than tea, coffee and biscuits.

TOPICS

- T1. Transfer of Bucklebury Meadow/Copse.  
 Mrs. Frankum thanked Mr. Slatford for all the work he has carried out on the Management Plan and an Action Plan for the meadows. Hazel Eccles (from Field Seymour Parkes LPP in Reading) has identified that the meadows are subject to a tenancy agreement. This is likely to have an impact on the Management Plan. However without knowing the details of the tenancy agreement, it is difficult to determine what this impact is likely to be. The Clerk has received a quote of approximately £500 for initial investigations into the tenancy agreement. DWH has agreed to undertake the costs of the transfer of the meadow. The quote from Field Seymour Parkes LPP for the transfer of the copse is £950 plus VAT and disbursements; DWH are likely to undertake the cost of this transfer too. Mr. Dickens proposed that BPC instruct Field Seymour Parkes LPP to investigate the tenancy agreement and to undertake the transfer of the copse on behalf of BPC. This was seconded by Mr. Dunkerton and unanimously agreed. Dick Greenaway has agreed to walk around the meadows tomorrow (Tuesday) and give his opinion on the health of the trees and the best ways to preserve them for future generations. The Clerk has contacted the insurance company concerning BPC’s liability regarding the trees. It is understood that a fully qualified arborist needs to inspect trees on land owned by BPC because BPC has a duty of care to anyone on such land. HP
- T2. Grit bin request in The Slade.  
 The Clerk reported that she had received a number of requests for a grit bin at the junction of Holly Lane, Tylers Lane and The Slade. During the recent cold weather the road at this point has been covered by a significant thickness of ice. Mr. Banks proposed that the Clerk request a licence from WBC and purchase a yellow grit bin to a maximum value of £100; this was seconded by Mr. Dickens and unanimously agreed. Mrs. Cairns and the Clerk will identify the exact site which will lie on the western side of Tylers Lane. HP
- T3. Cemetery.  
 The cross in the new part of the Cemetery is showing signs of movement. It was

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agreed that the cross needs to be taken down and inspected before a decision was made for its future. It was agreed that quotes should also be obtained for repairs to the paving stones/brick structure underneath the cross. HP

The Clerk reported that she had obtained a quote from C. R. Landscapes and Roger Malloy for the removal of the birch tree resting on the wires in the Cemetery. It was suggested that the wires were electric and therefore Scottish Southern Electricity may need to be involved, however the Clerk had met Scottish Southern Electricity at the Cemetery and they said that the wires are BT telecom and not theirs. The Clerk will contact BT. HP

Mrs. Frankum reported that the inside walls of the Chapel were showing signs of damp and requested that the Chapel should be surveyed. The Clerk will contact Jonathan Poole for advice. HP

PLANNING

Plans submitted for approval:

P1. 13/00019/FUL The Watermill, Bucklebury.  
 Restoration of derelict watermill to known original condition.  
 Restoration of complete mill base superstructure, cladding and roof to original known condition. Retaining all original machinery returned to working condition as complete conservation project.  
 Planning applications have been approved and have since expired for the restoration of the mill; however these were before the flood alleviation project was implemented and are not believed to have contained any information about how the restored mill might be used.  
 Mrs. Clarke read out a letter from Piers Allison, which considered the possible options for the mill, with some of the advantages/disadvantages of each. Mrs. Clarke then expressed concern about the lack of information on proposed usage, the potential traffic increase on rural roads, the issues concerned with access to the mill from Bucklebury Recreation Ground car park (along the road and though a muddy field often containing horses) and the suggestion of usage of the toilet facilities at the Victory Room which are not open to the public.  
 The meeting was **closed**.  
 Mr. McOran-Campbell explained that there were two significant factors: the mill is medieval; and in order to gain grant funding the mill must be open for visits. The application refers to the mill being open for perhaps 100 days a year. This would be by appointment only. The Design and Access statement states that there is no vehicular access to the mill.  
 The meeting was **reopened**.  
 It was generally agreed that BPC has no objection to the restoration of the mill; however there is significant concern about the possibility of the mill being open for 100 days a year and the impact this would have on Bucklebury. Councillors commented that funding for the restoration was dependent upon education visits. It was pointed out that such visits could occur as much as three times a week during the school term. Mr. Pask said that the Environment Agency had been consulted about the application and that the applicant had been asked to supply more details about the proposed usage of the mill after restoration.  
 Mr. Brims proposed that BPC delay making a decision until after the Planning Committee meeting on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February, however if an extension cannot be allowed until then that BPC object to the application on the grounds of the future use of the mill. Mr. Banks seconded the proposal which was supported by a total of seven councillors with one

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against.

*Subsequent to the meeting, an extension until Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February for comments from BPC was agreed by WBC.*

P2. 13/00115/HOUSE

2 Snowdrop Cottages, The Slade.

Removal of conservatory and part rear lean-to and extensions to rationalise plan and provide accessible bedrooms and first floor bathroom.

BPC unanimously agreed **no objection** to this application.

WBC Planning decisions:

P3. 12/03007/HOUSE

Brackenhurst Cottage, The Avenue.

Proposed alteration and extension, garage building, outdoor swimming pool and associated external works.

BPC **objected** to this application and it has been **withdrawn**.

P4. 12/02880/FUL

Brockhurst Preparatory School.

Alterations and extensions to the existing school hall to provide a high quality, multi-purpose performing arts and sports centre and extension to existing gravel car park.

BPC had **no objection** to this application and it has been **approved** by WBC.

P5. 12/02695/FULD

Fifield Farm, Marlston.

Demolish three barns and replace with one new detached dwelling house and garaging.

BPC **objected** to this application and it has been **withdrawn**.

P6. 12/02891/FUL

Kings Copse Bungalow.

Replace existing bungalow with new dwelling.

BPC had **no objection** to this application; however it has been **refused** by WBC.

P7. 12/02862/FULD

46-47 Roundfield.

Erection of four three-bedroom properties (three houses and one bungalow) following demolition of existing dwellings.

BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.

P8. 12//02774/HOUSE

Mulberry House, Carbinswood Lane (Adjacent Parish).

Erection of chain link fence 2.75m high to surround Tennis court 17m x 34m.

BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.

P9. 12/01116/HOUSE

Gamekeepers Lodge Farm, Hawkridge Hill (Adjacent Parish).

Two storey end extension. Single storey rear extension. Enlarge garden room and glaze in existing verandah.

BPC had **no objection** to this application which was **refused** by WBC and has subsequently been **dismissed on appeal**.

## REPORTS

R1. District Councillor Report.

Mr. Pask said that the WBC budget has increased by 2%. Over the next 3 years, £6.5 million needs to be saved. In the short term 30 positions are to be made redundant; half of these positions are already vacant.

After the cold weather there have been significant issues across the area with maintenance of the highways. This is particularly true for Marlston Road (from Bucklebury to Marlston) and Carbinswood Lane.

R2. Memorial Hall.

Mr. Dunkerton reported that the builder has started work on the store room extension.

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Mr. Scholl has raised concerns about whether the planned, new pre-school shed will be in the way of the construction of the extension.

R3. Patient Participation Group.

Mr. Dickens reported that online appointments will soon be available. On-screen check-in is also being considered. During the next few weeks, a survey will be carried out involving some patients visiting the surgery.

R4. WBC Site Allocation Meetings.

The Core Strategy sees a need for a further 10,500 homes in West Berkshire. These are being distributed as follows: Newbury 5,400, Thatcham 900, East Kennet Valley (Burghfield and Mortimer) 800, Eastern urban area (Calcot and Theale) 1,400 and AONB (rural service centres and service villages, not Bucklebury) 2000. Of the 2000 in the AONB, 1,310 have already been built. Settlement boundaries will be reviewed. There is a presumption that there is no new development outside of settlement boundaries.

R5. Level of the River Pang and 4x4s.

Mrs. Clarke proposed that a working group be formed to progress work on reducing levels of the River Pang and to work on making it difficult for 4x4s to enter the river and to destroy the bank between the two fords. It was proposed that this working group would be chaired by Piers Allison and would have the following members: Mrs. Clarke, Mr. Brims, Mr. Slatford, Mr. Pask and the Clerk. The formation of this group was unanimously agreed. A meeting needs to be organised with Stuart Clarke from WBC and Andy Theaker from the Environment Agency.

HP

R6. Recreation Ground Committee/Football.

At a recent meeting of the Recreation Ground Committee it was agreed that work on the car park extension would start next week.

In addition, it has been agreed that BPC will pay for the grasscrete matting for additional parking for Bucklebury Wolves.

The committee has agreed that football for those up to the age of 16 and cricket are compatible.

#### TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING

TM1. Items to be discussed at future meetings.

Housing Survey –March/April.

Emergency Plan –March/April.

Transfer of Bucklebury Meadow.

Parish Plan Action Plan – March.

#### FINANCE

F1. Cheques to be signed by Councillors:

Justeel Limited	£48.00	Pre-school grant for storage.
Helen Pratt	£452.96	Clerk's January 2013 salary.
Daisy's Dream	£150.00	Grant/donation.
1 <sup>st</sup> Bucklebury Rangers	£175.00	Grant/donation.
Victim Support	£50.00	Grant/donation.
Bucklebury Parish Council	£10,575.00	Transfer to reserve account.

F2. Balances:

Lloyds Current Account	£27,474.62	On 18 <sup>th</sup> January 2013
Scottish Widows Reserve Account	£26,739.74	On 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2012.
Scottish Widows Gilroy Account	£6,497.08	On 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2012.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

C1. WBC – Request for nominations for the WBC Standards Committee.

Mr. Dickens is looking at this request in more detail.

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- C2. WBC – 40mph and 30mph speed consultations in Bucklebury.  
This consultation shows the extension to the 30mph speed limit from Chapel Road towards Bucklebury and Stanford Dingley as previously discussed by BPC.

ROUND TABLE COMMENTS

- RT1. Nigel Palmer.  
Mrs. Frankum said that a skip has been ordered for tomorrow (Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February) for the removal of Mr. Palmer's belongings from All Saints Church.
- RT2. Anniversary of the start of WW1.  
Next year will be the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of WW1. It was agreed that BPC would take no action but remind Helen Relf of the Bucklebury History Group of the forthcoming anniversary.
- RT3. Birth of an Heir to the Throne.  
It was suggested that it might be appropriate to plant a tree next winter to commemorate the birth of the heir to the throne, due to be born in the summer.
- RT4. Vandalism.  
Mrs. Clarke reported that a window had been broken at the Victory Room.

The meeting closed at 9.50pm.

<b>NEXT BPC MEETING:</b>	<b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 7.45pm Memorial Hall.</b>
<b>NEXT PLANNING MEETING:</b>	<b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February 8pm Victory Room.</b>
<b>COMMON CLEARING:</b>	<b>Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2pm Memorial Hall.</b>

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